| Plant | Saleable Steel Production '000T | % Capacity Utilization |
|---|---|---|
| Bokaro Steel Plant | 1672 | 88 |
| SAIL 4 Plants | 5226 | 103 |
| Alloy Steels Plant | 53 | 57 |
| Salem Steel Plant | 35 | 40 |
| Visvesvarya Iron & Steel Plant | 48 | 124 |
| SAIL TOTAL | 5362 | 101 |

Labour Productivity of 4 Integrated Steel Plants of SAIL during first half of the year 2003-04 is as follows:

Crude Steel/tonne/man/year

| Plants | April-Sep. '03 |
|---|---|
| Bhilai Steel Plant | 174 |
| Durgapur Steel Plant | 121 |
| Rourkela Steel Plant | 82 |
| Bokaro Steel Plant | 130 |
| SAIL 4 Plants | 132 |

(b) No data on such a parameter for either India or other steel producing countries is available.

(c) At present, SAIL has no plans to expand its capcity.

**Prices of HR coils**

1222. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the specific rates on which H.R. Coil of various sizes/makes were sold by Steel Authority of India during the last three financial year, quarter-wise;

(b) the specific rates of the same varieties of H.R. Coils imported by the Steel Authority of India during the same period; and

(c) whether there is any mechanism evolved to monitor and oversee the prices of the commodity so as to ensure that private sector companies manufacturing the commodity do not indulge in malpractices at the cost of the financial terms lenders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) The information asked for is of commercially sensitive nature. It will not be in the interest of the Company to divulge such information.

(c) In a deregulated environment, prices are determined by the free interplay of forces of demand and supply. Government does not intervene in the market to influence prices.

**National Steel Policy**

1223. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a national steel policy that would aim at cutting costs for steel producers and increase exports;

(b) if so, whether a meeting of primary producers has been called to discuss the issue of price stability and lowering of import duty on steel;

(c) whether Government have Constituted a Committee to address iron ore related issues faced by sponge iron industry;

(d) if so, whether Government would provide relief to Indian Steel sector which is reeling under steel fall in global prices of the metal; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. To look into iron ore related issues pertaining to the sponge iron industry, the Government has constituted a Committee comprising of representatives from the industry associations, Ministry